

- (h) $\Delta 79$;
- (i) $\Delta 81$; and
- (j) $\Delta 82$.
16. A variant according to Claim 15 selected from the group consisting of:
- (a) $\Delta 70, 75 - 82$;
- (b) $\Delta 75 - 82$;
- (c) $\Delta 70, 78, 79$;
- (d) $\Delta 70$;
- (e) $\Delta 78$; and
- (f) $\Delta 79$.
17. A variant according to Claim 1 further comprising a substitution of one or more of positions 70 - 84 corresponding to subtilisin BPN'.
18. A variant according to Claim 1 further comprising one or more stabilizing mutations.
19. A variant according to Claim 17 further comprising one or more stabilizing mutations.
20. A variant according to Claim 18 wherein the stabilizing mutations are selected from the group consisting of I107V, K213R, Y217L, Y217K, N218S, G169A, M50F, Q19E, P5A, S9A, I31L, E156S, G169A, N212G, S188P, T254A, S3C + Q206C, and Q271E.
21. A variant according to Claim 20 wherein the stabilizing mutation is Y217L.
22. A cleaning composition comprising a variant according to Claim 1 and a cleaning composition carrier.
23. A cleaning composition comprising a variant according to Claim 17 and a cleaning composition carrier.
24. A personal care composition comprising:
- (a) a variant of a serine protease having a modified amino acid sequence of a wild-type amino acid sequence, wherein the modified amino acid sequence comprises a deletion of one or more of positions 70 - 84 corresponding to BPN'; and
- (b) a personal care composition carrier.
25. A composition according to Claim 24 wherein the variant further comprises a substitution at one or more of positions 70 - 84 corresponding to subtilisin BPN'.

26. A personal care composition according to Claim 24 which is selected from the group consisting of oral cleaning compositions, contact lens cleaning compositions, hair care compositions, beauty care compositions, and skin care compositions.


27. A mutant serine protease gene encoding the variant according to Claim 1.

28. A mutant serine protease gene encoding the variant according to Claim 17.

The support for these amendments is found in the claims as originally filed. These amendments are being entered to bring the claims into conformance with, *inter alia*, 37 CFR §1.75; no new matter is added.

Respectfully submitted for Applicants,

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